



# countdown

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## Endeavour ready for rollout to launch pad Thursday



◆ **Shuttle Update:** Preparations are under way to move space shuttle **Endeavour** from the VAB to Launch Pad 39B early Thursday

morning. Endeavour was attached to its external fuel tank and twin solid rocket boosters Sept. 12.

◆ **ELV Update:** NASA's Interstellar Boundary Explorer, or IBEX, spacecraft is targeted for launch no earlier than Oct. 19 aboard a Pegasus XL rocket from the Reagan Test Site on Kwajalein Atoll. Kwajalein is part of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, located approximately 2,500 miles west southwest of Hawaii. IBEX will make the first map of the boundary between the solar system and interstellar space. IBEX also will study galactic cosmic rays, energetic particles from beyond the solar system that pose a health and safety hazard for humans exploring beyond Earth orbit. It will make these observations from a highly elliptical orbit that takes it beyond the interference of the Earth's magnetosphere.

■ **Family Day Update** — The 2008 KSC/CCAFS Family Day will be held Oct. 18. The event includes a fun-filled day of tours, exhibits and demonstrations, and culminates with a NASA 50th Anniversary Celebration at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex. Throughout the day, there will be exhibits in KSC and CCAFS facilities and drive-by tours of the shuttle, Atlas and Delta launch pads, the Air Force Museum, the SLF and much more. KSC and CCAFS will be

Did you know? Americans use 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour. Forty recycled plastic soda bottles make enough fiber to stuff a sleeping bag. Five plastic soda bottles yield enough fiber for one extra large T-shirt, one square foot of carpet, or enough fiber fill for one ski jacket. *Rethink recycling. It matters more than you think.*

open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. during the event. The NASA 50th Anniversary Celebration begins at 3 p.m. at the Visitor Complex. For more information, the Web site <http://familyday.ksc.nasa.gov/> will be active next week.



■ **NASA Science** — To improve hurricane forecasting, NASA engineers are spending time in a spooky room where “no one can hear you scream.” You can read the full story at: [http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/12sep\\_scream.htm](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/12sep_scream.htm).

■ **“All Eyes On NASA” Briefing Sept. 24** — An hour-long unclassified counterintelligence briefing will be offered to KSC employees at 9 a.m. and again at 1 p.m. Sept. 24 in the KSC Training auditorium. All KSC civil servant and contractor employees are invited to attend. Seating will be first come, first served. For more information, please contact Ron Storey at 867-2568.

■ **KEA-29 Presentation** — The Kennedy Engineering Academy **today** hosts

## South Pacific site for IBEX launch

the topic “Columbia STS-107 Foam Impact Analysis,” presented by Michael Bell from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the KSC Training Auditorium. Questions and comments should be sent to [KSC-Engineering-Academy@mail.nasa.gov](mailto:KSC-Engineering-Academy@mail.nasa.gov).



■ **KSC Intercenter Walk/Run Is Next Week** — The KSC Fitness Centers are sponsoring the Intercenter Walk/Run on Sept. 23 at the Shuttle

Landing Facility. The 2-mile walk/run; 5k run and 10k run are FREE for all spaceport employees. Stop by either fitness center by Friday to pre-register. Late registration takes place at the race.

■ **Identifying and Reporting Unsafe Conditions or Hazards** — Pay attention to what is around you and consciously look for conditions that are not safe or are potentially hazardous. Unsafe conditions or hazards include ripped or frayed carpet (tripping hazard) and a light switch missing its cover plate (electrical shock hazard). Report these or other conditions to your supervisor and, if necessary, to the appropriate trouble-call organization for corrective action.

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